

Ash Wednesday Service • February 17, 2021 • Order of Worship

Prelude - Elevation No. 7

Paul Benoit

Call to Worship

Kent Winters-Hazelton

Look to the Lord

We look to the Lord with thanksgiving, our God of unending love.

Look to the Lord for transformation.

We look to the lord with anticipation, who leads us from death to life.

Look to the Lord for healing.

We look to the Lord in faith. In Jesus Christ we see the lamb of sacrifice.

Look to the Lord. Look forward to the glory of the cross.

Opening Prayer

God, our guide in wilderness and testing, in Jesus Christ you show us the fast you choose: the practice of justice and compassion. Teach us to follow him in truth and grace, receiving our reward with your saints in glory; through Christ, the treasure of our hearts.

Hymn No. 470 - There is a Longing in Our Hearts

LONGING

Call to Confession

Megan McCarty

Let us open our lives to God's healing presence, forsaking all that separates us from God and neighbor. In our confession, we offer to God whatever has wounded us or brought injury to others, that we may receive mercy and become for each other ministers of God's grace. Let us pray:

Prayer of Confession

Holy and merciful God, we confess to you and to one another, that we have sinned by our own fault in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done, and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart, and mind, and strength. We have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We have denied your goodness in each other, in ourselves, and in the world you have created.

In your mercy forgive what we have been. Help us to amend what we are. Shape and direct what we shall be, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways to the glory of your Holy Name. Amen.

Period of Silent Confession

Assurance of God's Forgiveness

The Almighty and merciful God, who desires not the death of a sinner but that we turn from deceit and live, accepts our repentance, forgives our sin, and restores us by the Holy Spirit to newness of life.

Thanks be to God. Amen.

Response to the Assurance - Hymn No. 215 - What Wondrous Love Is This WONDROUS LOVE
To God and to the Lamb I will sing, I will sing,
To God and to the Lamb I will sing;
To God and to the Lamb who is the great I AM,
While millions join the theme, I will sing, I will sing;
While millions join the theme, I will sing.

Prayer for Illumination

Lord, of life, pour out your Holy Spirit upon us that as we hear these words they may
becoming living Word for us to the glory of our living Lord Jesus Christ we pray. Amen.

First Lesson Isaiah 58:1-12

Second Lesson Psalm 51

Third Lesson Matthew 6:1-6, 16-21

Meditation

Hymn No. 708 - We Give Thee but Thine Own SCHUMANN

Service of Ashes

Prayer

In the quiet of the night, in the comfort of darkness we come to you, O Lord. We come for
peace; we come for comfort; we come for forgiveness and love.

The Congregation shall sing, O Lord, Hear My Prayer,

**O Lord, Hear My Prayer
O Lord, Hear My Prayer
When I call, answer me
O Lord, Hear My Prayer
O Lord, Hear My Prayer
Come and listen to me.**

In the softness of evening, in the solace of silence we come to you, O Lord. We come for
acceptance; we come for community; we come for forgiveness and love.

**O Lord, Hear My Prayer
O Lord, Hear My Prayer
When I call, answer me
O Lord, Hear My Prayer
O Lord, Hear My Prayer
Come and listen to me.**

In the serenity of day's end, in the restfulness of worship, we come to you O Lord. We
come to you for respite; we come to you for completion; we come to you for forgiveness
and love.

**O Lord, Hear My Prayer
O Lord, Hear My Prayer
When I call, answer me
O Lord, Hear My Prayer
O Lord, Hear My Prayer
Come and listen to me.**

In the quiet of the night, in the comfort of darkness we come to you, O Lord. We come for peace; we come for comfort; we come for forgiveness and love.

**O Lord, Hear My Prayer
O Lord, Hear My Prayer
When I call, answer me
O Lord, Hear My Prayer
O Lord, Hear My Prayer
Come and listen to me.**

We come, O Lord of Light, seeking the illumination of your Word. We come for the path we can't find; we come for the life we don't have. We come to you for our lives are death and you alone have breath and being.

Burning of Burdens

Lord's Prayer

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come; thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our debts as we forgive our debtors; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power and the glory, forever. Amen.

Hymn No. 737 - Lord Jesus, You Shall Be My Song (vv. 1, 2, & 3)

LES PETITES SOEURS

Benediction

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We look to the Lord in faith.
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Depart in Silence